

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

DEFAULT PREVENTION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 21, 2015

Ms. BONAMICI. Madam Speaker, Congress should be discussing how to pay its obligations in a responsible manner, which is why I will oppose H.R. 692. This legislation would irresponsibly result in the payment of some obligations but not others. Importantly, this bill could result in payments going to China, but not to active-duty military, veterans, national security, and other important obligations.

Instead of spending time on H.R. 692, which is likely to be vetoed, Congress should be working to raise the debt ceiling in a way that will prevent a default. Raising the debt ceiling permits payment of obligations already incurred. If we are unable to raise the debt ceiling by November 3rd, the Treasury will not be able to meet its obligations and the nation's credit rating would be in peril. The result would be devastating to our economic recovery.

We can quickly put an end to this unnecessary crisis and the uncertainty it creates. Members of Congress can and must work together to prevent the United States from a catastrophic default, starting with a responsible approach to debt payment. Again, I urge my colleagues to join me in voting no on H.R. 692.

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR OPPORTUNITY AND RESULTS REAUTHORIZATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 21, 2015

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 10) to reauthorize the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act, and for other purposes:

Mr. COLE. Mr. Chair, I support the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act which has been a remarkable success with overwhelming support among parents whose children participate.

Every American child deserves the opportunity to receive a great education. Education is the key to success no matter your background, race or religion. As a former educator, I know the importance of making sure our children learn the skills they need to succeed in life. And while education is, and should remain, primarily a state and local issue, Congress has constitutional authority for the District of Columbia. I am committed to making sure the parents and teachers in Washington, D.C., and throughout the country, have the

tools necessary to provide a world class education to all children.

No child should have to attend a low performing public school when alternatives are available and those alternatives provide positive and long-lasting benefits for a lifetime. I believe strongly in the authority of parents to direct the education and upbringing of their children with minimal interference from government at any level. Consequently, I am an advocate of charter schools, vouchers, and opportunity scholarships—all of which are supported through this legislation. Choice and the possibility to have an opportunity to attend the highest performing schools is what all parents want for their children.

I am hopeful that with the passage of this legislation many more families will have the opportunity to take advantage of public, charter, and private schools. Research has found voucher recipients are more likely to graduate from high school than their public school counterparts—82 percent of students who took advantage of a scholarship program graduated high school, while only 70 percent of students who applied but did not receive a scholarship graduated high school.

Education is essential to not only individual success, but the success of this great nation. H.R. 10 continues the emphasis on educational quality across D.C. and brings opportunity to those most in need by providing them with the option and means to attend a private school. By providing the opportunity to choose, children in D.C. will have an opportunity for a brighter future. For these reasons, I support this legislation, and thank Speaker BOEHNER for bringing this legislation to the floor.

HONORING MATTHEW SHAFER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 22, 2015

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Matthew Shafer. Matthew is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1125, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Matthew has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Matthew has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Matthew has earned the rank of Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. Matthew has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Matthew constructed an asphalt handicap access trail at the community baseball fields in Lawson, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Matthew Shafer for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America

and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF HONOLULU

HON. MARK TAKAI

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 22, 2015

Mr. TAKAI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to recognize the 100th Anniversary of the founding of the Rotary Club of Honolulu.

First chartered on July 1, 1915 with 29 members, membership has now grown to more than 200 members that strive to embody the "service above self" motto of the Rotary Club. The Honolulu Chapter has truly exemplified this motto at every turn. For the last fifty years, the Rotary Club of Honolulu has worked to advocate on the behalf of children, starting with the committee that grew into the Children's Advocacy Center for sexually abused children. Every year, this Rotary Club hosts a Christmas Party for foster children and their families that celebrates the special relationship that they share. The work that they do shows the passion that each member has for serving others and the city and county of Honolulu.

Not only do they work for the betterment of Honolulu, they also work internationally on major humanitarian projects in the Philippines. The projects they do cannot be understated and I would like to extend a heartfelt thanks (mahalo) for all the great work that they do.

Congratulations on this milestone accomplishment to the Rotary Club of Honolulu and I look forward to continue seeing the great work that the Rotary Club of Honolulu does for the next hundred years.

WAZEE PARTNERS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 22, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Wazee Partners for receiving the City of Wheat Ridge's Mayor's Partnership Award. Selected by Wheat Ridge Mayor Joyce Jay, the Mayor's Partnership Award recognizes businesses showing strong community ties and a positive reflection of Wheat Ridge values.

Wazee Partners has been a critical ally in revitalization efforts in Wheat Ridge. In recent years, they have constructed more than 130 affordable senior housing units. The walkable placement of the Wheat Ridge Town Center Apartments makes the community an ideal place for older Coloradans to enjoy and take advantage of a thriving Colorado city. Wazee's dedication to the residents and their responsiveness to the city make Wazee Partners an asset to the Wheat Ridge community.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.